

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10646 121457Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NEAE-00 /026 W
-----107838 121533Z /40

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2726
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 10646

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, PK, US
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CRUISER VISIT TO KARACHI

REF: STATE 174444

1. THE INTENSITY OF INDIAN REACTION, GOVERNMENTAL AS WELL AS PUBLIC, TO A U.S. CARRIER TASK FORCE STEAM-BY WITH GOP OFFICIALS ABOARD WILL DEPEND UPON HOW IT IS PUBLICIZED BY THE UNITED STATES AND PAKISTAN. WHILE IN ANY CASE INDIAN REACTION WILL BE NEGATIVE, WE BELIEVE IT WILL NOT SERIOUSLY DAMAGE US INTERESTS HERE, IF WE DESCRIBE THE EVENT AS PART OF ROUTINE OPERATIONS AND MINIMIZE ANY ATTENDANT PUBLICITY. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE GOP WOULD OBLIGE US BY NOT PUBLICIZING THE STEAM-BY MORE THAN IS ABOSOLUTELY "NECESSARY."

2. GIVEN THE STILL VIVID 1971 MEMORY OF THE ENTERPRISE AND THE GOI'S OBJECTIVE (RECENTLY REITERATED) OF ELIMINATING GREAT POWER PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, IT IS UNTHINKABLE THAT ANY IDNIAN OFFICIAL/POLITICIAN WOULD PARTICIPATE IN A STEAM-BY. THE GOI WOULD FIND EVEN THE OFFER OF AN
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OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE AN INDICATION OF U.S. INSENSITIVITY. THE IDEA SHOULD BE
DROPPED.

3. WHILE NOT OFFERING THE INDIANS A CHANCE TO BOARD THE ENTERPRISE, WE SHOULD BRIEF THE GOI AT THE EARLIEST THAT PAKISTANI VIPS WILL HAVE A DAY AT SEA

WITH US. THIS COULD BE PLAYED MERELY AS A GESTURE OF
APPRECIATION TO THE GOP FOR ITS COOPERATION
IN PERMITTING OUR SHIPS TO USE PAKISTANI PORT FACILITIES.
IN KEEPING WITH THIS LOW KEY PRESENTATION, WE PROPOSE THAT,
WHEN AUTHORIZED, WE INFORM THE GOI AT THE MEA JOINT
SECRETARY LEVEL.
GOHEEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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